Auschwitz

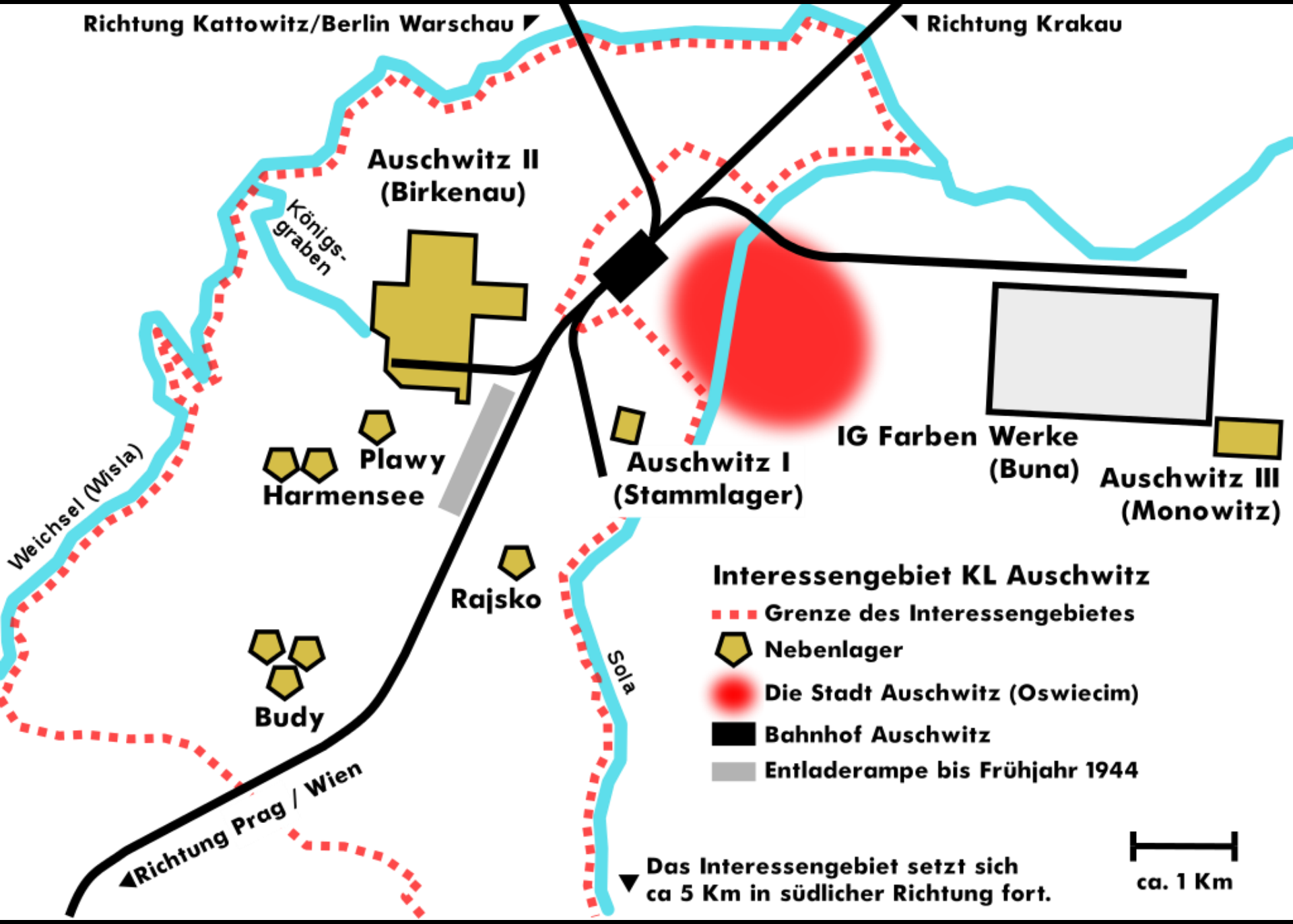
A few things before you start. . .

- These pictures are disturbing. They should be. Auschwitz is the sight of the largest mass murder in history.
- The pictures cannot communicate the size and feeling of Auschwitz. For that you have to go and see it for yourself.
- I took almost all of these pictures. The ones I did not take have a blue outline. (There are parts of the site you cannot use a camera.)

Auschwitz
Krakow, Poland

Legenda
Förintelseläger
Koncentrationsläger
Stad med getto
Omfattande massaker
0 (km) 250
0 (mi) 150
Östersjön
Kaunas
Vilnius
Paneriai
Maly Trostenets
Ostpreussen
Stutthof
Soldau
Bialystok
Slonim
Baranavitjy
Treblinka
Potulice
Chelmno
Pinsk
Västpreussen
och Wartheland
Warszawa
Sobibór
Lublin
Lodz
Majdanek
Lutsk
Generalguvernementet
Gross-Rosen
Belzec
Kraków
Auschwitz
Lviv
Riksprotektoratet
Böhmen-Mähren
Plaszow
Zaslaw

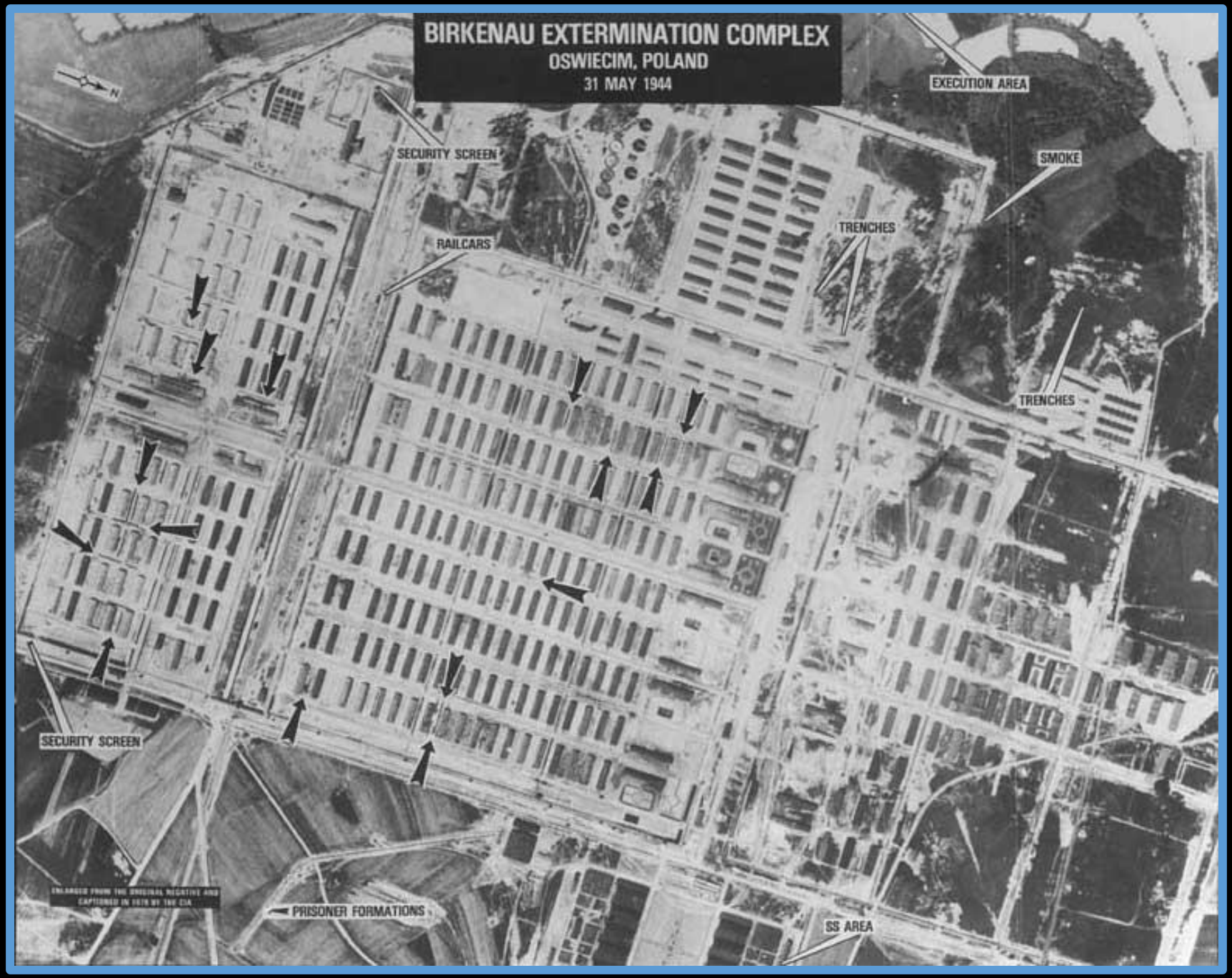
The Holocaust
Extermination camp
Concentration camp*
City with ghetto
Transit city
Major massacre
Major deportation route
Regions: German name (PRESENT COUNTRY)
Axis country/annexed by Axis
Occupied by Axis
Italy (Axis) at height of occupation
Allied country
Neutral
* Includes labor-, prison- & transit camps.
Note: Not all camps & ghettos are shown.
Borders are at the height of Axis domination (1942).
Dotted borders are present (2007) borders.
0 100 200 300 400 500 km
0 100 200 300 mi
N
W
E
S
Ulven
Grini
NORWAY
Berg
North Sea
SWEDEN (Neutral)
Vaivara
(ESTONIA)
SOVIET UNION (RUSSIA)
Farthest German Army Advance
(LATVIA)
Rumbula
Kaiserwald
(LITHUANIA)
Baltic Sea
DENMARK
Horserød
Reichskommissariat Ostland
OCCUPIED RUSSIA
Kaunas
Vilnius
Ponary
Maly Trostenets
(BELARUS)
East Prussia
Stutthof
Soldau
Treblinka
Białystok
Lakhva
Potulice
Chełmno
Warsaw
Nèrengamme
Ravensbrück
Sachsenhausen
Berlin
Westerbork
Bergen-Belsen
UNITED KINGDOM
Amersfoort
NETHERLANDS
Arbeitsdorf
West Prussia & Wartheland (POLAND)
Łódź
Majdanek
Sobibór
Babi Yar
Herzogenbusch
Niederhagen
Mittelbau-Dora
General-gouvernement (POLAND)
Reichskommissariat Ukraine (UKRAINE)
Breendonk
Mechelen
BELGIUM
Buchenwald
Gross-Rosen
Belżec
Vinnitsa
English Channel
GERMANY
Auschwitz
Breitenau
Theresienstadt
Kraków
Płaszów
Lwów
Lager Sylt (Alderney)
Compiègne
Bohemia & Moravia (CZECH REP.)
Zaslaw
Mogilev-Podolski
Drancy
Flossenbürg
Hinzert
Hodonín
Chernivtsi
Transnistria
Paris
SLOVAKIA
Novaky
Pithiviers
Natzweiler-Struthof
Sered Vyhne
Kishinev
Odessa
Dachau
Mauthausen
Vienna
OCCUPIED FRANCE
Kistarcsa
Budapest
Ebensee
Cluj
Ostmark (AUSTRIA)
HUNGARY
ROMANIA
SWITZERLAND (Neutral)
Bolzano
(SLOVENIA)
Jasenovac
Black Sea
San Sabba
VICHY FRANCE (Unoccupied)
Sajmište
Schabatz
Asti
Fossoli
Rab
NDH (CROATIA)
SERBIA
Topovske Supe
Crveni krst
Gurs
BULGARIA
Vernet
Nisch
MONTE-NEGRO
Dupnitsa
Servigliano
ITALY
Adriatic Sea
Skopje
SPAIN (Neutral)
CORSICA
Rome
Bitula
ALBANIA
OCCUPIED GREECE
Thessaloniki
TURKEY (Neutral)
The Mediterranean
Aegan Sea

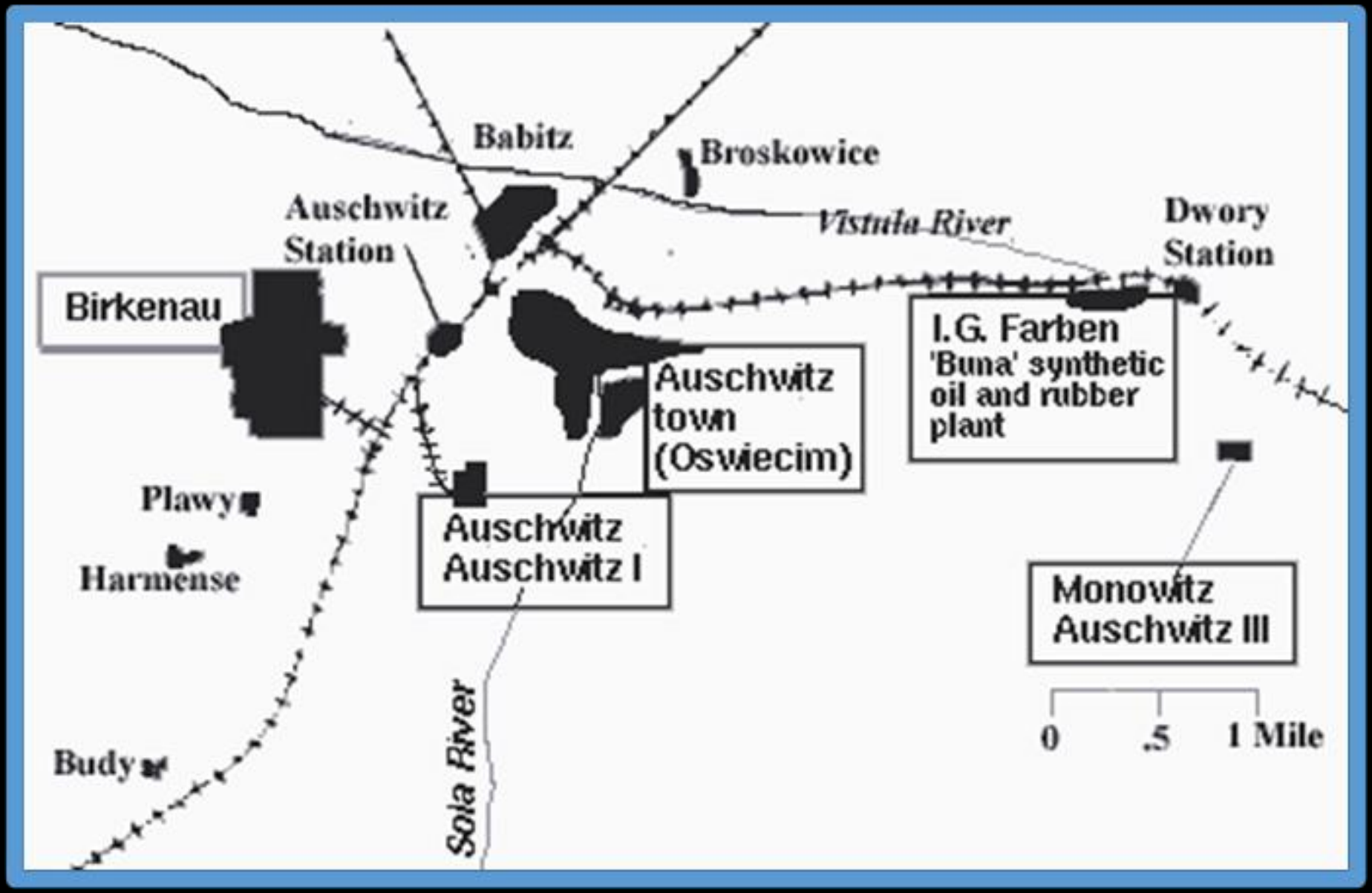

Richtung Kattowitz/Berlin Warschau
Richtung Krakau
Auschwitz II
(Birkenau)
Königs-
graben
Plawy
Harmensee
Weichsel (Wisla)
Auschwitz I
(Stammlager)
IG Farben Werke
(Buna)
Auschwitz III
(Monowitz)
Rajsko
Budy
Sola
Richtung Prag / Wien
Interessengebiet KL Auschwitz
Grenze des Interessengebietes
Nebenlager
Die Stadt Auschwitz (Oswiecim)
Bahnhof Auschwitz
Entladerampe bis Frühjahr 1944
Das Interessengebiet setzt sich
ca 5 Km in südlicher Richtung fort.
ca. 1 Km

Estimated Victims

Treblinka: 800 000 – 925 000
Bełżec: 350 000 – 600 000
Sobibór: 167 000 – 250 000
Chełmno: 152 000 – 320 000
Majdanek: cirka 80 000
Auschwitz-Birkenau: cirka 1 100 000

- What we call Auschwitz was 3 camps-Auschwitz I, II, and III
- Auschwitz I was a former army base. When the Nazis took it over, it became a work camp. Today it houses the museum and memorial.
- Auschwitz II (also known as Birkenau)was the death camp. Most people who arrived there went directly to the gas chamber. The hundreds of barracks housed workers for Auschwitz III and other slave labor. Today it looks just like it did when the Soviet Army arrived in 1945.
- Auschwitz III was a series of factories for the Nazi war machine. It is not open for visitors.


BIRKENAU EXTERMINATION COMPLEX
OSWIECIM, POLAND
31 MAY 1944
N
SECURITY SCREEN
RAILCARS
EXECUTION AREA
SMOKE
TRENCHES
TRENCHES
SECURITY SCREEN
PRISONER FORMATIONS
SS AREA


Babitz
Broskowice
Auschwitz Station
Vistula River
Dwory Station
Birkenau
I.G. Farben
'Buna' synthetic oil and rubber plant
Auschwitz town (Oswiecim)
Plawy
Auschwitz
Auschwitz I
Harmense
Monowitz
Auschwitz III
0
.5
1 Mile
Budy
Sola River

HALT!
STOJ!

Work Will Make You Free

Small Gas Chamber, Auschwitz I

Museum and Memorial at Auschwitz I

- Urn containing ashes of some victims
- According to survivors, ashes were thrown in the river, scattered on the grounds, and tossed in the woods
- When you walk around Auschwitz, you walk on the ashes of victims

Poison Gas Canisters

Personal Belongings of Victims

- The Holocaust was also the largest theft in all of human history.

- Victim's belongings were all taken from them.

- Some of the things they brought with them are in the museum. Most of their belongings were used for the Nazi war machine or given to Germans who had been bombed.

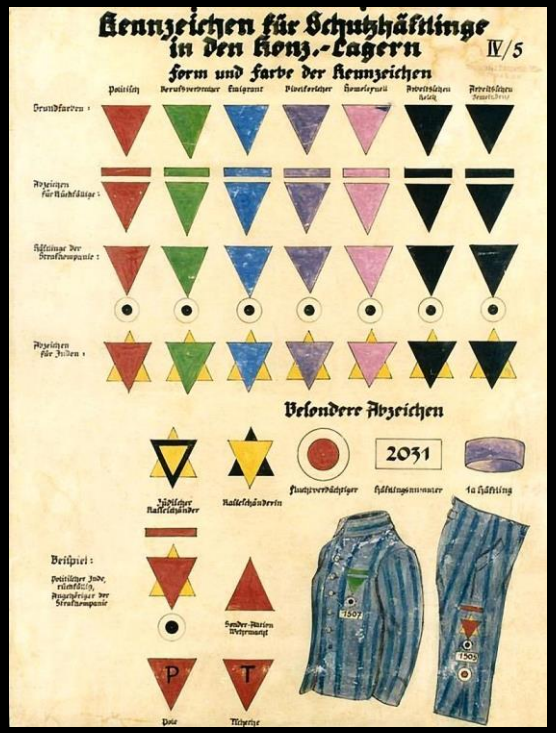
Personal Belongings of Victims

- The Nazi's first victims were the disabled
- The first use of poison gas was in vans where the Nazis poisoned the physically and mentally disabled

Personal Belongings of Victims

Victim's Hair

Barracks in Auschwitz I



Execution Wall

Auschwitz II

- Train platform inside the camp
- This was the last place many place saw their loved ones

Gas Chamber at Auschwitz II

- Three massive gas chambers and crematoria at Auschwitz II were blown up by the Nazis as the Soviet Army approached
- Their remains have not been touched since 1945

Gas Chamber at Auschwitz II

- The camp is massive, much bigger than pictures show
- The plan was for it to be bigger. The Red Army arrived before the Nazis could finish building all of the planned for barracks

Barracks at Auschwitz II

AUSCHWITZ WAS THE LARGEST NAZI GERMAN CONCENTRATION CAMP AND DEATH CAMP.
IN THE YEARS 1940-1945, THE NAZIS DEPORTED AT LEAST 1,300,000 PEOPLE TO AUSCHWITZ:

1,100,000 JEWS,
140,000-150,000 POLES,
23,000 ROMA (GYPSIES),
15,000 SOVIET PRISONERS OF WAR,
25,000 PRISONERS FROM OTHER ETHNIC GROUPS.

1,100,000 OF THESE PEOPLE DIED IN AUSCHWITZ. APPROXIMATELY 90% OF THE VICTIMS WERE JEWS. THE SS MURDERED THE MAJORITY OF THEM IN THE GAS CHAMBERS.

Facts that stuck with me. . .

- Auschwitz is Hungary's largest cemetery. It is in Poland.
- The first tours of Auschwitz were given by survivors. Despite what had to be and emotionally draining and extremely difficult story to tell, they wanted the world to know.
- The place is huge. The pictures do not you a good idea of the size.
- Auschwitz has almost 2 million visitors a year.